

# PROGRAMME

## Part I-NEWTOWN BARRACKS

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(a) EAST INDIAN FESTIVAL

HOSEIN AND HASAN (HOSSE)

*Performed by East Indians from Belize*

The Hosse is a community project, often initiated and supported by the East Indians in Belize in fulfilment of a vow. Or it may be a family practice, carried on yearly. The fete consists of making a large TADJAH or temple of shirred and rosetted paper over a framework of bamboo and roseau.

The actual construction is precise and painstaking. Several thickness of newspaper are glued over the framework of bamboo. White and green, the colours of the National Flag of Pakistan are particularly popular, but red, blue and gold are also much in evidence.

After the TADJAH has remained on display from three days to a week, it is carried to the nearest stream and thrown in. Several men then jump in the water to make sure it is totally disembered and dissipated, and on the way home plans are discussed for next year's TADJAH.

The East Indian festivals have made their unique contributions and have developed a sense of unity and common purpose so necessary in such a diverse community as British Honduras.

*(Director: Mohamed Ali.)*

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(b) CARIB NATIVE DANCE

JOHN CANOE

*Performed by Caribs from Stann Creek*

- 3 Drummers
- 10 Male Dancers
- 6 Female Dancers
- 5 Boys Dancers

*(Promoter: Mathias Avaloy)*

(c)

## OLD SPANISH DANCE

### MOROS Y CRISTIANOS

*Performed by the Group from El Cayo*

In a variation of the old Spanish dances based on historical events in the times when the Moors overran Spain, we see the conflict between the Sultana and the Queen Anvistela over their respective religious views.

After a challenge by the Sultana, when her invitation to the Queen to turn Mohammedan has been rejected, the issue between the two Monarchs is settled in single combat between two of their ladies-in-waiting. The vanquished and wounded Moslem maiden is shown Christian charity and nursed in the court of the Queen where she becomes Christian, and, on being freed to return to the Sultana, persuades the Monarch and her Court of the virtues of Christianity.

(d)

## KETCHI MUSIC AND DANCES

*Performed by the Ketchi Indians from Toledo*

Ketchi Indians of Crique Sarco, comprising a string quartet, present their authentic music while their wives perform the traditional dances.

(e)

## MAYAN DANCE

### MESTIZADA FESTIVAL

*Performed by the Corozal and Belize Mayan Group*

The Harvest celebration of the Mayans has come down through the ages and, in some areas, is still a Mayan Festival. In Mayan custom, when the crops had been gathered, the *Amo de Hacienda* called the workers to celebrate with him in a night of dancing and feasting. The dancers compete for honours; the "Chick" and his "wife" provide laughter, and each worker is rewarded for his labours by a special gift from the *Amo*.